

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 225

Rep. Breen offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare February 4, 2022, as School Safety  
2 Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, In the 2017-2018 school year, more than 3,659 threats  
4 and incidents of violence occurred in American K-12 schools; and

5 Whereas, The 2017-2018 school year saw 279 incidents of  
6 violence compared to 131 events in the 2016-2017 school year; and

7 Whereas, November 30, 2021, ended with the loss of Hana St.  
8 Juliana, Tate Myre, Madisyn Baldwin, and Justin Shilling from  
9 Oxford High School. This tragedy has shattered our state and we  
10 grieve with their families, friends, and the entire Oxford  
11 community; and

12 Whereas, This loss of life and innocence at Oxford High

1 School, Parkland, Columbine, Sandy Hook Elementary, and all other  
2 schools in America is unbearable, soul crushing, unacceptable, and  
3 perhaps even preventable; and

4       Whereas, It is incumbent upon us to collectively raise our  
5 voices and say not one more, and take all measures and actions to  
6 ensure the safety and wellbeing of our children, educators, and  
7 school staff; and

8       Whereas, Schools and communities across our state lack the  
9 mental health experts, counselors, social workers, and  
10 psychologists to identify and assist students showing warning signs  
11 for depression and violence; and

12       Whereas, Schools need the resources to significantly invest  
13 and plan against acts of violence, which includes building security  
14 updates, coordination with law enforcement, creating threat  
15 assessment teams, and ensuring mental health resources and social  
16 emotional learning programs are available; and

17       Whereas, Creating safe school environments requires a  
18 comprehensive, coordinated effort including schoolwide,  
19 districtwide, and communitywide strategies where all institutions,  
20 organizations and individuals must accept responsibility for their  
21 critical roles and collaborate to establish a positive environment  
22 for teaching and learning; and

23       Whereas, Safe schools provide an environment where teaching  
24 and learning are not distracted; disruptions are minimized; drugs,  
25 violence, bullying and fear are not present; students are not  
26 discriminated against; expectations for behavior are clearly  
27 communicated and standards of behavior are maintained; and  
28 consequences for infractions are consistently and fairly applied;  
29 and

1           Whereas, Even if the incident is not experienced directly, the  
2 number of incidents, the intense level of attention, and the  
3 elevated anxiety impacts educators, students and their communities;  
4 and

5           Whereas, Acts of violence have multiple causes and will  
6 require multiple solutions to prevent as many tragedies as we can,  
7 and heal from the acts we are unable to stop; now, therefore, be it

8           Resolved by the House of Representatives, That members of this  
9 legislative body declare February 4, 2022, as School Safety  
10 Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.